IN THE SPECIFICATION:

Please replace the first full paragraph of specification page 9 with the following replacement paragraph:

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Whereas clients of a NAS-based network environment have a storage viewpoint of files, the clients of a SAN-based network environment have a storage viewpoint of blocks or disks. To that end, the multi-protocol storage appliance 200 presents (exports) disks to SAN clients through the creation of luns or vdisk objects. A vdisk object (hereinafter "vdisk") is a special file type that is implemented by the virtualization function and translated into an emulated disk as viewed by the SAN clients. Such vdisks objects are further described in United States Patent Application Serial No. 10/216,453, now issued as U.S. Patent No. 7,107,385, entitled STORAGE VIRTUALIZATION BY LAYERING VIRTUAL DISK OBJECTS ON A FILE SYSTEM, by Vijayan Rajan, *et al.* The multi-protocol storage appliance thereafter makes these emulated disks accessible to the SAN clients through controlled exports, as described further herein.

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